

DOCKET NO: 210029US3 DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENTS & TRADEMARKS OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
Yuji MATSUYAMA, et al. : EXAMINER:
SERIAL NO: New Divisional Application :
FILED: Herewith : GROUP ART UNIT:
FOR: HEAT TREATMENT METHOD, :
HEAT TREATMENT
APPARATUS AND
TREATMENT SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified Divisional Application, filed under Rule 53(b), as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 9-24 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this Rule 53(b) Divisional Application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

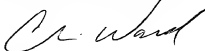
Claims 1-8 are presently active in this case, original Claims 9-24 having been canceled by way of the present amendment. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-8

represent the non-elected claims of parent application number 09/272,782.

Accordingly, examination on the merits of Claims 1-8 are believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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